Attachment to Reply and Amendment dated August 27, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-9

1. (Amended) [A] An isolated gene encoding a protein having activity to synthesize aurones by preferentially using chalcones as substrates.

2. (Amended) [A] An isolated gene [as set forth in claim 1 wherein said protein is a polyphenol oxidase] obtained from a plant, which encodes a protein having activity to synthesize aurones by preferentially using chalcones as substrates.

4. (Twice Amended) [A] An isolated gene as set forth in claim 1, [capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence described in Sequence ID No. 1, and encoding a protein having activity to synthesize aurones by using chalcones as substrates] which hybridizes under high stringency conditions with a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence described in SEQUENCE ID NO:1, and encodes a protein having activity to synthesize aurones by preferentially using chalcones as substrates.

5. (Twice Amended) [A] An isolated gene as set forth in claim 1, [having sequence homology of at least 55% relative to the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID No. 2, and encoding a protein having activity to synthesize aurones by] which encodes an amino acid sequence having a homology of at least 55% relative to the amino acid

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sequence described in SEQ ID NO:2, and encodes a protein having activity to synthesize aurones by preferentially using chalcones as substrates.

7. (Amended) A host cell transformed by a vector as set forth in claim 6.

8. (Amended) A host cell as set forth in claim 7, wherein said host cell is a microorganism or animal cell.

9. (Amended) A host cell as set forth in claim 7, wherein said host cell is a plant cell.